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MONTANA EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE

MAY - 1981

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MONTANA EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE

MONTHLY REPORT

May 1981

STATE OF MONTANA
TED SCHWINDEN, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
DAVID L. HUNTER, COMMISSIONER

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
FRED BARRETT, ADMINISTRATOR

Volume 11 - Number 5

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Employment and Training Administration

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GLOSSARY OF TERMS

1. Civilian Labor Force - the number of persons 16 years and older, defined as employed or unemployed, excluding members of the Armed Forces.

2. Employed - those persons who work for pay or profit during a week or, as unpaid family workers, work 15 hours or more during a week. Also included as employed are those who, although not working, had some job attachment and were not looking for work, including persons temporarily absent from a job due to illness, bad weather, vacation, or labor management dispute, whether or not they were in a pay status during their time off.

3. Unemployment - the number of persons who, for an entire week, did not work at all, were able to work and available for work, and (1) were looking for work or (2) would have looked for work except that (a) they were waiting to return to a job from which they had been laid off, or (b) they were waiting to report to a new wage and salary job scheduled to start within the following 30 days (and were not in school during the week).

4. Unemployment Rate - the number of unemployed expressed as a percent of the civilian labor force.

5. Residence Data - a count of people by where people live.

6. Establishment Data - a count of jobs by where people work.

7. Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Series - to facilitate the evaluation of the labor force, recurrent yearly movements have been isolated and removed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics X-11 variant of the Census Method II seasonal adjustment program.

8. Composite Index - an aggregate of six economic indicators. The indicators used are: Manufacturing - Employment, Average Weekly Hours, total Accessions and Layoffs; Average Weekly Initial Claims; and statewide Building Permits. A reverse trend was used for Layoffs and Average Weekly Initial Claims. This composite index is published in "Business Conditions Digest", U. S. Department of Commerce.

9. Real Spendable Average Weekly Earnings of Private Nonagricultural Production Workers - represents the earnings of a hypothetical individual after deductions for State Income Federal Income and Social Security taxes, and adjustment for change in purchasing power since 1967. This individual is assumed to be sole support for a family of four, earn the average weekly gross earnings of production workers in Montana's private nonagricultural industries, and take standard deductions on State and Federal income taxes. Taxes were computed using standard tax tables, and purchasing power was adjusted by deflating Spendable Earnings based on the national Consumer Price Index.

10. WIN - Work Incentive Program for Aid to Dependent Children recipients.

11. CETA - Comprehensive Employment and Training Act of 1974.

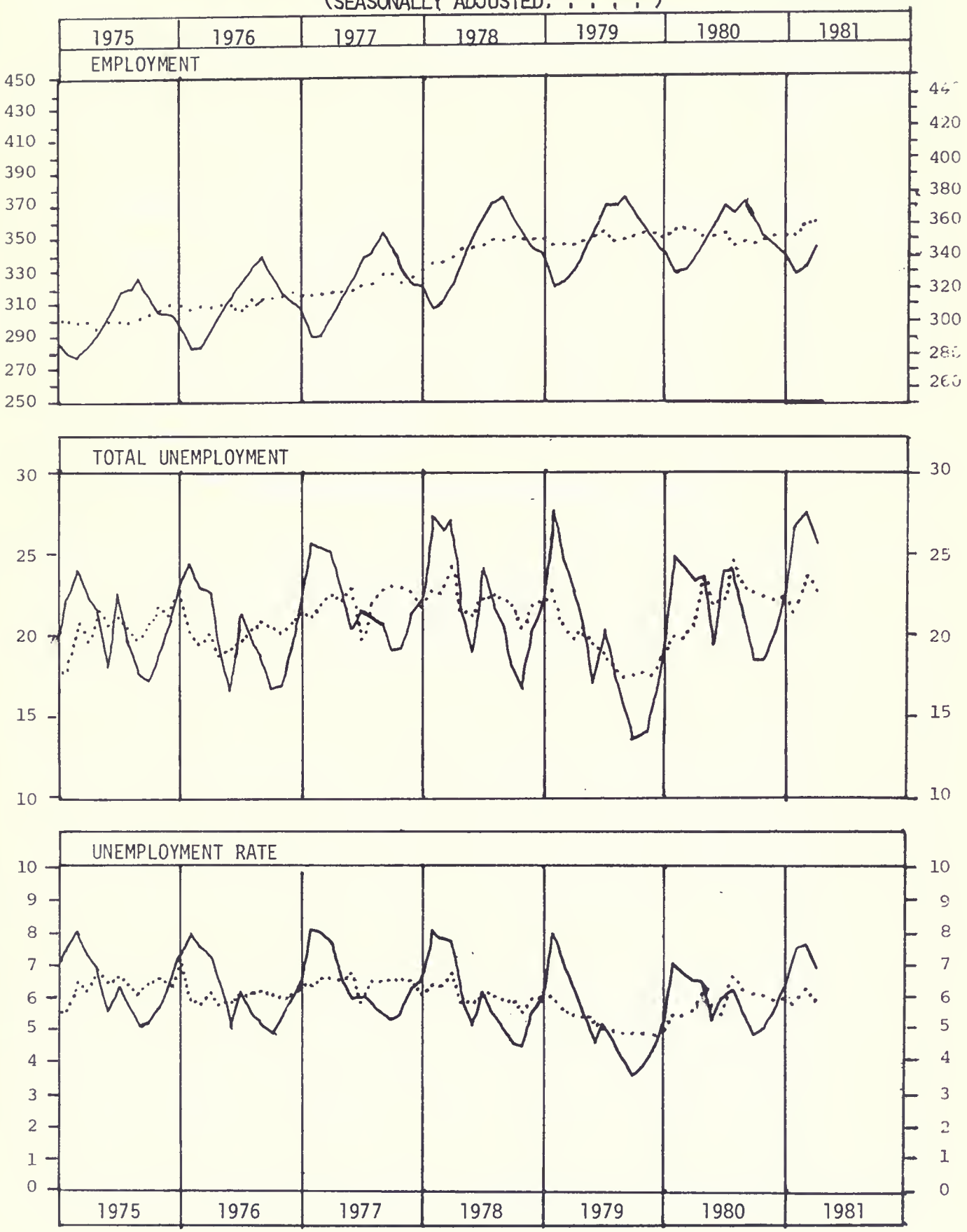
12. CETA-CEP - Concentrated Employment Program funded under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act.

13. SMSA - Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area as determined by Office of Management and Budget. Must have a central city with population of 50,000 or more.

14. LMA - Labor Market Area as determined by the Montana Employment Security Division consists of a central city or cities with population of less than 50,000, and the economically integrated geographical area surrounding it.

MONTANA EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT, AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

(NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED: _____)
(SEASONALLY ADJUSTED: . . . .)



All Labor Force Statistics contained in this publication are in accordance with the Federal guidelines as established by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Methodology procedures use a household sample conducted in Montana on a monthly basis, called the Current Population Survey. These official statistics are used to allocate federal funding. Any questions concerning these figures should be directed to:

Bob Rafferty, Supervisor
Research & Analysis
Employment Security Division
P.O. Box 1728
Helena, MT 59601

STATEWIDE

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	Apr. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	382.7	371.3	370.7	11.4	12.0
Employment	359.2	345.7	347.2	13.5	12.0
Unemployment	23.5	25.6	23.5	-2.1	0
Unemployment Rate	*6.1*	*6.9*	*6.4*	*-.8*	*-.3*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Farmers and ranchers became more optomistic about their crops this month as much needed precipitation fell over most of the state. Drought conditions that had caused short stockwater supplies, limited growth of range grasses and potential crop failure have been somewhat alleviated. While relieving the drought conditions in the east, the heavy amounts of rain and snow have created floods in the west and several counties have been declared disaster areas.

Bids on 2,188 acres of leases for oil and gas exploration were opened the first week of May by the Bureau of Land Management. The total bid for the acreage was $952,556 making the average bid of $435.26 per acre. Most of the parcels in the lease sale were in the Northern Powder River Basin and the Miles City arch. The parcel that brought the highest bid was in Teton County's Blackleaf Canyon field. Bentonite, a water absorbent clay, has the potential to become as great an issue for Montana as coal. Bentonite has many uses but 70% is used in oil and gas exploration. Much of the remaining bentonite in the world is in the State.

Construction work is showing a seasonal increase in employment. Work has begun on about $145.7 million of major road construction contracts according to the state Highway Department. A major utility company has allocated $248 million for capitol expenditures. This is the largest construction budget in the history of the company. Residential construction is also increasing although high interest rates are still delaying many projects, and preliminary estimates show a decline in the April employment in lumber and wood products manufacturing. These fluctuations in employment are probably seasonal in nature.

As the tourist season begins, increases in employment have been noted in the retail trade industry, especially in eating and drinking places.

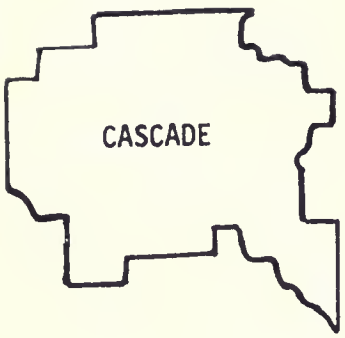
The outlook for tourism, however, is dampened somewhat due to the high gasoline prices and inflation. The trend of people to drive less, stay in one place longer and use mass transportation where possible and economically feasible poses particular problems for Montana which is far removed from major national population centers.

Reduced federal spending has resulted in cutbacks in CETA Public Service Employment. There are, however, a number of other programs that still exist to help economically disadvantaged people. An estimated 1,500 Montana youth will be put to work in a variety of jobs this summer under the U. S. Labor Department's Summer Youth Employment Program.

GREAT FALLS SMSA

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)



	Apr. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	35.5	34.7	33.5	.8	2.0
Employment	32.9	32.1	31.4	.8	1.5
Unemployment	2.6	2.6	2.1	0	.5
Unemployment Rate	*7.3*	*7.6*	*6.3*	*-.3*	*1.0*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Construction work is increasing in the area. Fifty-nine building permits were issued in April, ten more than the same month last year. Two residential permits had the highest value. These were for four duplexes--eight units--with a total value of $281,440. A construction permit for a new business valued at $159,340 was also issued. These helped boost the total value of building permits issued for the month to $1.6 million--the most since last August. Four of the top ten road contractors this year are Great Falls firms. They have jobs currently underway that represent a total of $62.3 million in contracts.

Manufacturing employment is remaining fairly stable with possibilities of improving. A manufacturer of solar energy devices has returned to a full work force after about a one month closure in February and March. The lay off came about when an independent dealer cut back orders creating a surplus at the plant. The same firm has developed a new product which could create a need to add to the current production force of 40 to 45 people. Talks are continuing with two firms that have shown interest in the copper refinery in the area. One company has inspected the plant and is in the process of making a proposal to the current owner. The second company plans on touring the plant this month.

The Great Falls Urban Transit district had their application for $23,500 approved by the City-County planning board. The money will be used to perform two studies of the city's bus system. Bids received by the transit system from bus manufacturing will allow Great Falls to get 15 buses at a cost of about $1.3 to $1.4 million dollars. The new buses could be delivered early next year.

Great Falls is faced with expenditures that are increasing faster than revenues. In order to live within the budget, plans are underway to decrease the number of city employees. Currently, there are 370 permanent positions and by modifying some of the operations, the total number of positions could be less. It is projected that attrition rather than layoffs will reduce the work force.

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	Apr. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	58.2	57.6	55.5	.6	2.7
Employment	55.6	54.6	53.0	1.0	2.6
Unemployment	2.6	3.0	2.5	-.4	.1
Unemployment Rate	*4.4*	*5.2*	*4.4*	*-.8*	---

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

The Billings SMSA reported mixed movement with a few businesses closing and some new construction and new business coming in at the same time. Although building permits dropped during April compared to April, 1980 by 42%, the year-to-date total was a 4% increase over last year.

Some new businesses include a golf course in Huntley and an ice cream store in Billings. The new golf course will be hiring between 18 and 20 persons to help with the restaurant and to fill maintenance crews. The ice cream store will employ the two owners and two part-time helpers.

A cleaners that burned down a few months ago is reopening. They will hire back about 10 employees that were laid off as a result of the fire.

A hospital in Billings announced plans to construct a Regional Cardiac Diagnostic and Treatment Center. The completion date is expected to be in August, 1982. Also in Billings will be a $2.6 million Child Psychiatric Center. The Center will employ approximately 100 persons with annual payrolls of $2 million. A targeted completion date is the summer of 1984.

A hamburger restaurant is closing which will leave ten persons out of work. The building has been sold to a group of doctors who will remodel the building and use it as offices. Also going out of business is a mortgage company and a department store's truck and tire outlet. These both affected a total of twelve persons but five of these may be absorbed by the main department store. There were eight more persons left without work when a trophy business in Billings laid them off due to a slowdown in business. With seasonal jobs beginning to open up, maybe these persons left without work will soon be employed again.

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	Apr. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	35.3	34.6	34.2	.7	1.1
Employment	32.7	31.9	32.1	.8	.6
Unemployment	2.6	2.7	2.1	-.1	-.5
Unemployment Rate	*7.5*	*7.7*	*6.0*	*-.2*	*-1.5*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

There are a number of new businesses and workers called back in the Anaconda-Butte LMA during this reporting period. Along with new seasonal employment, some layoffs are reported.

Among the new businesses is a dairy distribution plant out of Helena. This may employ up to ten persons. Also in Butte is a new ladies apparel shop, a trophy and sportswear store, and a Greek restaurant specializing in sandwiches, fast food and carry-outs.

In Dillon, work has started on the clearing of ground for a new 42-unit low income apartment complex. Four laborers are working at the present time.

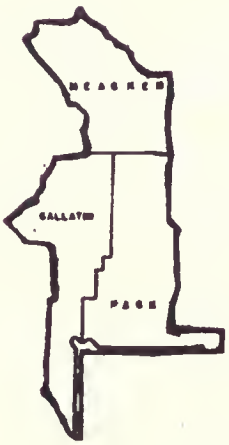
Beaverhead County has agreed to sponsor bonds to be used in building a pellet plant which will eventually employ five persons in addition to the regular work force.

Agricultural activity consists of feeding, calving, lambing and field work.

In the Dillon area, there will be 12 crew members and three supervisors working on the extermination of rodents. Employment activity also consists of the forest service rehiring its seasonal workers and a Dillon sawmill recalling 15 workers which were laid off in February.

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)



	Apr. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	26.7	25.9	26.5	.8	.2
Employment	25.1	24.3	24.8	.8	.3
Unemployment	1.6	1.6	1.7	0	-.1
Unemployment Rate	*5.8*	*6.2*	*6.3*	*-.4*	*-.5*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

A survey sponsored by several environmental and conservation groups indicated that 96 percent of Gallatin County citizens want more wilderness. Also, 94 percent of the 304 persons sampled said they utilize the national forest. Promoters of the survey were pleased by the wilderness survey results that were sampled to a 95 percent confidence level.

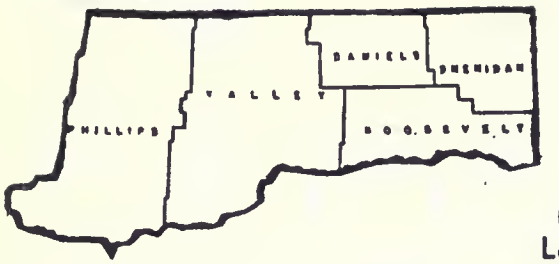
With the skiing season completed, local ski resorts reported their attendance to be between 20 and 25 percent less than last year. To eliminate the shortage of snow, one of the ski resorts plans to install snow-making equipment this summer. Some of the slopes would be open about Thanksgiving with the aid of man-made snow.

The city of Livingston received a $222,000 state grant for their "wind farm". This is the largest alternative energy grant given by the state and will pay for constructing and monitoring four 25 kilowatt wind electric generators. This type of alternative energy is the first known to be used by a municipal government in the United States. A sewage treatment plant will utilize the electrical power.

Gold mining will turn to gold flying this summer in the Big Timber Canyon. Helicopters will be used to extract about 30,000 tons of ore at a cost of about $3.5 million, using 6 helicopters and 25 employees. Preliminary reports indicate that the ore contains 2 ounces of gold per ton.

National Park Service workers started working again in early May, which is one month later than usual. The service and trade industries are starting to expand their staffs for the tourism activities.

GLASGOW LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	Apr. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	18.1	17.0	17.0	1.1	1.1
Employment	17.4	16.4	16.1	1.3	1.0
Unemployment	.7	.9	.6	-.2	.1
Unemployment Rate	*3.9*	*5.1*	*3.3*	*-1.3*	*.6*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

A surge in economic activity in the Glasgow area is now underway as work on a natural gas pipeline begins. The local Job Service office reports hundreds of calls each week from persons interested in pipeline employment. However, nearly all of the workers doing actual pipeline work will be employed by sub-contractors who will be recruiting from the respective craft unions. Local hiring among retail and service establishments continued to increase as a result of the pipeline activity and the return of aircraft testing personnel to the area. Numerous short-term and temporary jobs were reported, but available housing for persons coming into the area is in short supply.

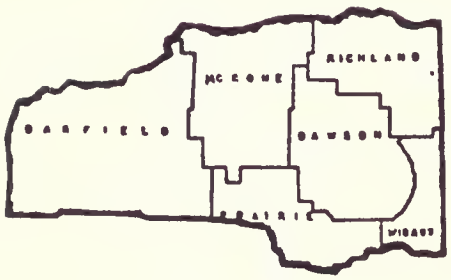
Construction activity continued at a healthy pace; though there isn't much new housing construction at this time, there is a normal amount of remodeling and repair work. Cement work was started on a new 45-unit tribal housing project employing 20 workers; masonry work started on a juvenile detention center, and a new 42-unit motel is nearing completion. In highway construction, crews for the county and the BIA were called back to work. A crew of 100 railroad workers moved into Poplar for line construction.

Oil exploration activity slumped as one seismograph crew moved to Wyoming and another took a two-week break. Drilling continued at a good pace, but few hires were reported. Activity in agriculture increased as farmers recruited workers for seeding and irrigation work.

An area training center finally closed its doors after months of phasing out education and employment training programs. Before cutbacks began, the center served 115 families from a six-state area and had a staff of 70.

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)



	Apr. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	16.7	15.8	15.6	.9	1.1
Employment	16.3	15.4	15.2	.9	1.1
Unemployment	.4	.4	.4	---	---
Unemployment Rate	*2.4*	*2.7*	*2.6*	*-.3*	*-.2*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Problems still exist with a shopping center project in Glendive. Construction was originally planned to be underway by now, but construction could be delayed until next spring. Developers are confident that a shopping center will eventually be built, though. Construction of a new racquetball facility ended and the owners report an excellent interest in membership by the community. Two different motel chains are seeking approval for industrial revenue bonds to finance new facilities--one in Glendive and one in Sidney. Construction activity in Sidney is brisk, with three projects underway: a new hardware store, a new appliance store, and a new church. Several remodeling projects are also underway, and a 100-unit motel is being planned.

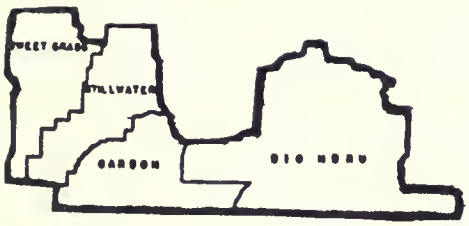
Oilfield activity was steady and shortages of experienced over work rig drillers were reported. A new company specializing in well completion work has moved into Sidney. Twenty-six workers were laid off from a railroad carshop and roundhouse, but many were able to pick up work on a new summer crew of twenty-one workers doing section work.

In agriculture, many fields were reported to be very dry, however, most small grains are up. Some irrigation work started and hiring should pick up pace in the next few weeks.

HARDIN-RED LODGE LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)



	Apr. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	14.0	13.3	13.8	.7	.2
Employment	13.4	12.6	13.2	.8	.2
Unemployment	.6	.7	.6	-.1	0
Unemployment Rate	*4.3*	*5.4*	*4.7*	*-1.1*	*-.4*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

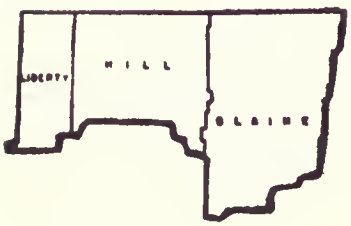
The crop outlook for the area was bad at the beginning of the month. Winter wheat, sugar beets and range grass all needed moisture. Most farmers were irrigating already, the creeks were very low and city watering was restricted. The long awaited moisture came in significant amounts of rain and snow in the second week of May and could be worth a million dollars for agriculture production in the area.

Oil and gas exploration has produced some results. A special hydraulics lift-type pump is being used to bring heavy oil out of the ground. Two of three wells in the Mackay and Dean Dome fields are averaging 80 to 90 barrels a day. The third well should begin producing soon. More drilling is being planned for the area. A wildcat driller has struck oil in Golden Vally County just over the Sweet Grass County line. The find is exciting people in the Big Timber area but it is not a proven oil field yet. It does mean more exploration will go on in the area.

Construction work is beginning to pick up. The highway department has been asked to proceed with planning for a Busby to Decker highway so that construction will be ready to go when funding is found. It is felt that about $8 million should be available for the project from the Montana Coal Board as part of Big Horn County's share of the Coal Severance Tax. The City of Hardin approved a SID that will mean curb, gutter, paving and drainage will be done in the town this year. Replanting of an area of Hardin was requested by a firm wanting to construct a $710,000 apartment complex. The 24 units will qualify for rent subsidy and should be ready for occupancy in September.

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)



	Apr. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	13.4	12.8	13.0	.6	.4
Employment	12.7	12.0	12.3	.7	.4
Unemployment	.7	.8	.7	.1	---
Unemployment Rate	*5.1*	*5.9*	*5.6*	*-.8*	*-.5*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

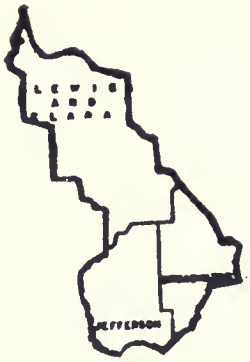
Market conditions which resulted in a surplus of tractors at an area manufacturing plant forced the firm to lay off nearly one-third of its workforce. Sixty-three workers are expected to be off the production line for 4-8 weeks, depending on market conditions. The long-term outlook for the firm is a little better though, since they are in the planning stages of an eventual two-year expansion program.

Layoffs of railroad employees were also reported. Only 25 men--of over 1,000 railroad workers in the area--were laid off in the past few weeks, but rumors are that severe cutbacks may be coming in the near future. Layoffs of workers in occupations funded by CETA monies continued, also.

Activity in construction continued at a pretty good pace with three large commercial projects in various stages of completion. A new bank building is nearly complete; foundation block work began on a new grocery store; and excavation work finished at another new grocery store site. Construction of a new restaurant facility should begin in early June, and plans were announced by a drugstore to do extensive remodeling of their building this summer. About $2 million will be spent in Chinook for a street improvement project if the City Council accepts bids for the project.

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)



	Apr. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	29.1	28.4	28.3	.7	.8
Employment	27.8	27.0	26.9	.8	.9
Unemployment	1.3	1.4	1.4	-.1	-.1
Unemployment Rate	*4.5*	*5.1*	*5.1*	*-.6*	*-.6*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Farmers and ranchers are becoming more optimistic about their potential crop production this year. The recent precipitation will provide good grass growth on the ranges and excellent conditions for the grain crops. Spring planting and other agriculture work is continuing as weather permits.

Construction work is providing a seasonal boost to employment opportunities. The sale of $3.5 million in industrial bonds for expansion of a downtown hotel has been approved by the City Commission. The State's long range building program includes two major projects in Helena. Four million dollars is to be provided for the building of a new Workers Compensation Division office and $6.8 million will be allowed for renovation of the State Capitol.

The total number of state and federal employees in the Helena area is diminishing as a result of government budget cuts. The local Job Service office reports that many of the layoffs are occurring in upper management positions while there are some openings for non-management people. The impact of reduced government employment will probably be felt soon in the retail and service industry in Helena.

Layoffs and transfers are occurring in the private sector also. A major utility is consolidating their facilities and transferring some of their people out of town. Nine people were laid off as a result of two businesses closing the end of April.

Contract negotiations are occurring in several places. A strike of state employees was averted as the legislature, in its final days, assured employees that they would honor previous agreements. Lewis and Clark County has begun negotiating with two of the four unions that represent about 150 county employees. The auto dealers and the independent auto body shops are having a labor dispute with the machinist union.

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	Apr. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	37.7	37.1	38.1	.6	-.4
Employment	33.6	32.6	33.3	1.0	.3
Unemployment	4.1	4.5	4.8	-.4	-.7
Unemployment Rate	*10.8*	*12.1*	*12.6*	*-1.3*	*-1.8*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

The Kalispell LMA reports some positive movement during this reporting period. A highlight includes a grant by the Department of Natural Resources which is waiting for approval. The grant would give an energy company out of Missoula approval to start preliminary work on a wood pellet plant in Eureka.

Groundbreaking ceremonies were held for a new $1.3 million building to be built next to the tribal complex in Pablo. The building will house the BIA agency which will move from its present location in Ronan. A completion date is set for May, 1982.

The retail sector appears to be the most optimistic in the Kalispell area, while their business depends largely on tourism trade.

Agriculture is picking up some with Christmas tree plantations hiring tree planters. Seed potato sorting and shipping also continues.

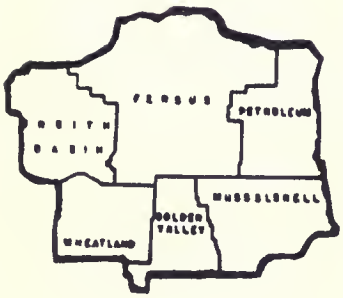
In the lumber and wood products industry, some loggers have returned to the forest as spring breakup comes to an end. A lumber mill in Libby has started to hire some workers back.

Some unemployment has resulted from a phone company transferring its repair and service section to Sandpoint, Idaho. A brief labor dispute halted work at a mine near Troy, but for the most part, employment is beginning to pick up with seasonal work starting.

LEWISTOWN LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

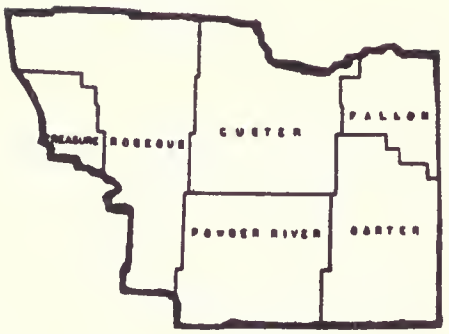


	Apr. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	10.9	10.3	11.0	.6	-.1
Employment	10.6	9.8	10.4	.8	.2
Unemployment	.3	.5	.6	-.2	-.3
Unemployment Rate	*3.3*	*4.7*	*5.1*	*1.4*	*1.8*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Activity in the construction and agriculture industries increased through the period. In construction, warming weather allowed work to continue on several projects begun earlier in the year. No new projects were announced this month in Lewistown, but in Roundup work should begin soon on a new $263,000 golf course project. In agriculture, spring work is now in full swing and recent precipitation is welcome by the farmers. Dry conditions in the fields depressed the demand for ag-workers early in the period, but hiring should pick up now.

Workers in the retail and service industries have been in demand. Cooks, waitresses and maids were recruited as the convention business picked up; and clerks and stockers were needed as retail trade activity increased slightly.



Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	Apr. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	17.4	16.7	16.3	.7	1.1
Employment	16.8	15.9	15.6	.9	1.2
Unemployment	.6	.8	.7	-.2	-.1
Unemployment Rate	*3.8*	*4.7*	*4.1*	*-.9*	*-.3*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

A surge of water news splashes the area, with heavy rains being the best news. A legislative bill authorizing $10 million worth of bonds backed by the principle of the coal severance tax trust for rehabilitation of the Tongue River Dam has been approved by the Governor. Also involved would be an emergency warning and downstream evacuation system for residents living below the dam. The Northern Cheyenne tribe and federal government's assistance will be sought in joint management and financing of the rebuilt dam and enlarged reservoir. A preliminary decree, setting forth water rights in the Powder River Basin, was signed early in May. Thus far, this area is the only Montana river basin where all water rights have been adjudicated. The statewide water rights recording process was initiated by the 1973 legislature.

Studies of soil samples continue for usage in determining the affect coal development will have on agriculture productivity in the lower Tongue River Basin. The pesticide used for controlling the higher than normal population of cut worms has been determined harmful to wildlife. A substitute pesticide that does not contain endrin and toxaphene chemicals has been approved for further control of the cut worm.

The Forsyth City Council has approved $450 million in revenue bonds to be used for pollution control facilities at the Colstrip 3 and 4 power plants. Support hiring can be noted in the trade and service industries in conjunction to the electric generator expansion occuring in Colstrip. April's thirty-five building permits in Miles City were nearly all existing residential improvements. Commercial development permit value was less than $5,000, which indicates the effects of high interest rates and economic uncertainty.

The railway line between Miles City and Ortonville, Minnesota has another threat to close by the railroad company. They have filed an application for abondonment with federal officials since the attempts to fund a $ 49 million rehabilitation of the tracks has thus far failed.

MISSOULA LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	Apr. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	50.9	49.9	50.0	1.0	.9
Employment	46.5	45.2	45.5	1.3	1.0
Unemployment	4.4	4.7	4.5	-.3	-.1
Unemployment Rate	*8.6*	*9.4*	*9.1*	*-.8*	*-.5*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Some commercial development is progressing, but the slow economy still prevails for the most part. The design concept of a Missoula hotel was approved by city officials. The $12.4 million, 200 room hotel and restaurant will now seek financing via industrial revenue bonds. The proposed $20 million downtown plaza had a set back. An architectural firm that was considered a main backer of downtown plaza development was not awarded the first phase parking garage design contract. Also downtown, a men's clothing store that was established 63 years ago plans to quit business in May. The main reasons given for the closure include a shift of the city's trade center to the mall and a recessionary economy.

The Missoula City Council annexed into the city a small parcel of land next to a mall to accommodate planned mall expansion. A plastic manufacturer in Hamilton that was recently awarded a military helmet contract, plans to move to Anaconda. Anaconda's Task Force's low interest $900,000 loan guarantee was the major factor in the moving decision.

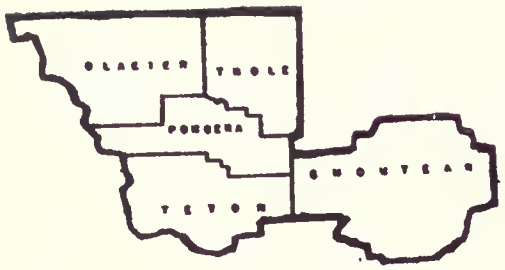
A labor dispute between 260 Missoula high school and vo-tech teachers and the school administrators started May 11, 1981. About 4,000 students were affected by the strike and a state mediator has been assigned to the labor dispute. Teachers salaries for the 1980-81 school year are at issue, as are salaries and contract language for the 1981-82 school year.

Wilderness advocates are pleased at recent government decisions not to escalate the Bob Marshall Wilderness area into oil and gas exploration. First, the Forest Service disallowed a geophysics firm from doing explosive seismic testing in the Bob Marshall Wilderness. Also, the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs decided to prevent oil and gas leasing in the Bob Marshall, Great Bear and Scapegoat Wilderness from occurring. Nearly 350 leases have been applied for in the three wildernesses. Appeals of these decisions are pending.

SHELBY-CUT BANK LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)



	Apr. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	18.8	17.2	18.0	1.6	.8
Employment	17.9	16.2	17.1	1.7	.8
Unemployment	.9	1.0	.9	-.1	---
Unemployment Rate	*4.8*	*6.0*	*5.2*	*-1.2*	*-.4*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

The Shelby-Cut Bank area reports very little new activity during May. A feasibility study is being conducted by the merchants in Shelby. In Cut Bank, the construction of two new bank buildings is progressing rapidly. Retail trades and the oilfields show the most hiring activity in the Cut Bank area. Drilling rigs and seismic crews continue to move into the East Glacier--Browning area. Agricultural activity is reported as being very slow during this reporting period.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE INSURED UNEMPLOYED

Social Characteristics	Percent of Total Insured Unemployment		
	Apr. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980
Non-White	16.0%	15.8%	12.3%
Female	19.3%	18.7%	18.0%
Youth	5.1%	4.9%	6.0%
Over 45	22.2%	22.0%	20.8%

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - U. S. 1/

All Items

(1967 = 100)

	1979		1980		1981	
	CPI-U	CPI-W	CPI-U	CPI-W	CPI-U	CPI-W
January	204.7	204.7	233.2	233.3	260.5	260.7
February	207.1	207.1	236.4	236.5	263.2	263.5
March	209.1	209.3	239.8	239.9	265.1	265.2
April	211.5	211.8	242.5	242.6	266.8	266.8
May	214.1	214.3	244.9	245.1		
June	216.6	216.9	247.6	247.8		
July	218.9	219.4	247.8	248.0		
August	221.1	221.5	249.4	249.6		
September	223.4	223.7	251.7	251.9		
October	225.4	225.6	253.9	254.1		
November	227.5	227.6	256.2	256.4		
December	229.9	230.0	258.4	258.7		
AVERAGE	217.4	217.7	246.8	247.0		

1/ *The Consumer Price Index (CPI) measures changes in prices of goods and services in major expenditure groups. The CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) covers about 40 percent of the total noninstitutional population. The CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) covers about 80 percent of the total noninstitutional population, including wage earners and clerical workers, salaried workers, the self-employed, retirees, and the unemployed.*

Table I

MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ Montana	Percent 1/ U. S.	
1979								
January	348.7	321.0	299.5	21.3	27.7	*7.9*	*6.4*	*
February	349.2	324.6	301.4	23.2	24.6	*7.1*	*6.4*	1.1
March	353.7	331.1	303.3	27.8	22.6	*6.4*	*6.1*	*
April	364.2	343.8	309.6	34.2	20.4	*5.6*	*5.5*	*
May	373.0	356.0	320.7	35.3	17.0	*4 6*	*5.2*	.1
June	391.6	371.2	331.0	40.2	20.4	*5.2*	*6.0*	.1
July	388.5	370.9	327.9	43.0	17.6	*4.5*	*5.8*	*
August	391.1	375.4	329.4	46.0	15.7	*4.0*	*5.9*	.1
September	381.0	367.4	331.5	35.9	13.6	*3.6*	*5.6*	*
October	371.1	357.2	326.7	30.5	13.0	*3.8*	*5.6*	*
November	365.3	349.7	323.5	26.2	15.6	*4.3*	*5.6*	*
December	362.6	343.8	321.2	22.6	18.8	*5.2*	*5.6*	*
Avg.	370.0	351.0	318.8	32.2	19.0	*5.1*	*5.8*	.1
1980								
January	354.8	329.9	309.1	20.8	24.9	*7.0*	*6.8*	.7
February	356.4	332.6	310.0	22.6	23.8	*6.7*	*6.8*	1.1
March	363.0	339.6	312.4	27.2	23.4	*6.5*	*6.6*	.7
April	370.7	347.2	313.8	33.4	23.5	*6.4*	*6.6*	.3
May	377.1	357.6	323.2	34.4	19.5	*5.2*	*7.0*	.2
June	394.7	370.9	331.7	39.2	23.8	*6.0*	*7.8*	.2
July	390.4	366.3	324.3	42.0	24.1	*6.2*	*7.9*	2.7
August	393.8	372.7	327.8	44.9	21.1	*5.4*	*7.5*	2.6
September	381.5	363.0	328.0	35.0	18.5	*4.8*	*7.1*	3.1
October	372.2	353.7	323.9	29.8	18.4	*5.0*	*7.1*	1.3
November	368.4	348.3	322.7	25.6	20.1	*5.5*	*7.1*	1.3
December	364.7	342.1	320.1	22.0	22.6	*6.2*	*6.9*	*
Avg.	374.0	352.0	320.6	31.4	22.0	*6.0*	*7.1*	1.2
1981								
January	354.6	328.1	307.3	20.8	26.5	*7.5*	*8.2*	*
February	362.4	334.9	312.8	22.1	27.5	*7.6*	*8.0*	*1.0*
March	371.3	345.7	319.2	26.5	25.6	*6.9*	*7.7*	*
April	382.7	359.2	326.6	32.6	23.5	*6.1*	*7.0*	*
May	*388.7*	*367.9*	*334.3*	*33.6*	*20.8*	*5.3*		*.4*
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers. *Series began January 1970.*

2/ Non-additive - included in total employment. *Revised to 1980 Benchmarks.*

* *Under 50.* *Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.*

RESIDENCE DATA

Table II

CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

Civilian Labor Force

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ County	Percent 1/ State	
1979								
January	33.3	30.2	29.4	.8	3.1	*9.4*	*7.9*	*
February	33.1	30.4	29.5	.9	2.7	*8.3*	*7.1*	*
March	33.5	31.0	29.9	1.1	2.5	*7.5*	*6.4*	*
April	33.9	31.7	30.3	1.4	2.2	*6.5*	*5.6*	*
May	34.4	32.5	31.1	1.4	1.9	*5.5*	*4.6*	*
June	35.1	32.9	31.3	1.6	2.2	*6.2*	*5.2*	*
July	35.0	32.9	31.2	1.7	2.1	*6.0*	*4.5*	*
August	35.0	33.1	31.3	1.8	1.9	*5.5*	*4.0*	*
September	34.5	32.8	31.4	1.4	1.7	*4.8*	*3.6*	*
October	33.3	31.9	30.7	1.2	1.4	*4.1*	*3.8*	*
November	33.2	31.4	30.4	1.0	1.8	*5.4*	*4.3*	*
December	32.9	31.0	30.1	.9	1.9	*5.7*	*5.2*	*
Avg.	33.9	31.8	30.5	1.3	2.1	*6.2*	*5.1*	*
1980								
January	33.0	30.5	29.7	.8	2.5	*7.7*	*7.0*	*
February	33.0	30.7	29.8	.9	2.3	*7.0*	*6.7*	*
March	33.7	31.5	30.4	1.1	2.2	*6.6*	*6.5*	*
April	33.5	31.4	30.1	1.3	2.1	*6.3*	*6.4*	*
May	34.4	32.4	31.0	1.4	2.0	*5.6*	*5.2*	.2
June	34.8	32.1	30.5	1.6	2.7	*7.7*	*6.0*	.2
July	35.3	32.6	30.9	1.7	2.7	*7.8*	*6.2*	.5
August	35.5	33.1	31.3	1.8	2.4	*6.8*	*5.4*	.4
September	34.8	32.7	31.5	1.2	2.1	*6.0*	*4.8*	.4
October	34.1	31.8	30.5	1.2	2.3	*6.9*	*5.0*	*
November	34.1	31.7	30.7	1.0	2.4	*7.0*	*5.5*	*
December	34.0	31.5	30.5	1.0	2.5	*7.3*	*6.2*	*
Avg.	34.2	31.8	30.6	1.2	2.4	*6.9*	*6.0*	.2
1981								
January	33.5	30.8	30.0	.8	2.7	*8.1*	*7.5*	*
February	34.2	31.3	30.4	.9	2.9	*8.5*	*7.6*	*
March	34.7	32.1	31.1	1.0	2.6	*7.6*	*6.9*	*
April	35.5	32.9	31.6	1.3	2.6	*7.3*	*6.1*	*
May	*34.9*	*32.7*	*31.4*	*1.3*	*2.2*	*6.4*	*5.3*	*
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.*

2/ *Non-additive - included in total employment.*

* *Under 50.*

Series began January 1970.

Revised to 1980 Benchmarks.

Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.

CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

Table III

RESIDENCE DATA

BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

Civilian Labor Force

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute[2/]
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent[1/] County	Percent[1/] State	
1979								
January	53.2	50.0	49.0	1.0	3.2	*6.0*	*7.9*	*
February	53.0	50.3	49.2	1.1	2.7	*5.1*	*7.1*	*
March	53.0	50.6	49.3	1.3	2.4	*4.5*	*6.4*	*
April	54.2	52.1	50.5	1.6	2.1	*3.8*	*5.6*	*
May	54.8	53.1	51.5	1.6	1.7	*3.1*	*4.6*	*
June	57.2	55.0	53.2	1.8	2.2	*3.8*	*5.2*	*
July	56.0	54.2	52.2	2.0	1.8	*3.2*	*4.5*	*
August	57.0	55.3	53.2	2.1	1.7	*3.0*	*4.0*	*
September	56.3	54.8	53.2	1.6	1.5	*2.6*	*3.6*	*
October	55.7	54.2	52.8	1.4	1.5	*2.6*	*3.8*	*
November	55.7	54.0	52.8	1.2	1.7	*3.1*	*4.3*	*
December	55.3	53.3	52.3	1.0	2.0	*3.7*	*5.2*	*
Avg.	55.1	53.1	51.6	1.5	2.0	*3.7*	*5.1*	*
1980								
January	54.9	52.0	51.0	1.0	2.9	*5.3*	*7.0*	.6
February	55.1	52.2	51.2	1.0	2.9	*5.3*	*6.7*	.7
March	55.4	52.5	51.3	1.2	2.9	*5.3*	*6.5*	.3
April	55.5	53.0	51.5	1.5	2.5	*4.4*	*6.4*	*
May	56.1	54.0	52.4	1.6	2.1	*3.8*	*5.2*	*
June	58.5	55.6	53.8	1.8	2.9	*5.0*	*6.0*	*
July	57.8	54.9	53.0	1.9	2.9	*5.0*	*6.2*	*
August	58.2	55.6	53.5	2.1	2.6	*4.5*	*5.4*	*
September	57.7	55.4	54.0	1.4	2.3	*4.0*	*4.8*	*
October	57.2	55.0	53.6	1.4	2.2	*3.8*	*5.0*	*
November	57.0	54.8	53.6	1.2	2.2	*3.8*	*5.5*	*
December	57.3	54.7	53.7	1.0	2.6	*4.5*	*6.2*	*
Avg.	56.7	54.1	52.7	1.4	2.6	*4.6*	*6.0*	.1
1981								
January	55.8	52.7	51.8	.9	3.1	*5.6*	*7.5*	*
February	57.1	53.8	52.8	1.0	3.3	*5.8*	*7.6*	*
March	57.7	54.6	53.4	1.2	3.0	*5.2*	*6.9*	*
April	58.2	55.6	54.1	1.5	2.6	*4.4*	*6.1*	*
May	*57.5*	*55.1*	*53.6*	*1.5*	*2.4*	*4.2*	*5.3*	*
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.* *Series began January 1970.*

2/ *Non-additive - included in total employment.* *Revised to 1980 Benchmarks.*

* *Under 50.* *Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.*

RESIDENCE DATA
(ESTABLISHMENT DATA in italics)

Table IV

MONTANA

Statewide Employment by Industry

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	Apr. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month from: Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS[1/]	382.7	371.3	370.7	11.4	12.0
EMPLOYED PERSONS	359.2	345.7	347.2	13.5	12.0
Persons Employed in Agriculture	32.6	26.5	33.4	6.1	-.8
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	23.5	25.6	23.5	-2.1	0
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted[2/]	*6.1*	*6.9*	*6.4*	*-.8*	*-.3*
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted[2/]	*5.9*	*5.9*	*6.1*	*0*	*-.2*
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	279.3	276.8	276.2	2.5	3.1
MANUFACTURING	21.7	22.5	21.6	-.8	.1
Durable Goods	12.9	13.5	13.1	-.6	-.2
24 Lumber and Wood Products	8.1	8.8	6.7	-.7	1.4
33 Primary Metal Industries	2.0	1.9	3.1	.1	-1.1
Other Durable Goods	2.8	2.8	3.3	0	-.5
Nondurable Goods	8.7	9.0	8.5	-.3	.2
20 Food and Kindred Products	3.6	3.9	3.8	-.3	-.2
27 Printing and Publishing	2.3	2.3	2.2	0	.1
29 Petroleum and Coal Products	1.0	1.0	.8	0	.2
Other Nondurable Goods	1.8	1.8	1.6	0	.2
MINING	7.7	7.8	8.3	-.1	-.5
10 Metal Mining	1.6	1.6	2.3	0	-.7
12 & 14 Bitum. Coal, Quarrying, Non-Metal Mining	2.3	2.3	2.2	0	.1
13 Oil and Gas Extraction	3.7	3.9	3.7	-.2	0
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	13.9	12.5	13.2	1.4	.7
15 General Building Contractors	4.3	3.9	4.4	.4	-.1
16 Heavy Construction Contractors	4.3	3.7	3.3	.6	1.0
17 Special Trade Contractors	5.3	4.9	5.5	.4	-.2
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	23.1	23.2	22.6	-.1	.5
40 Railroad Transportation	7.3	7.3	6.9	0	.4
41-47 Transportation, except Railroad	6.2	6.2	6.3	0	-.1
48 & 49 Commun., Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services	9.6	9.6	9.4	0	.2
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	71.8	70.6	71.8	1.2	0
Wholesale Trade	18.0	18.0	17.5	0	.5
Retail Trade	53.8	52.6	54.3	1.2	-.5
53 & 56 General Merchandise, Apparel, Accessories	7.7	7.7	8.0	0	-.3
54 Food Stores	7.6	7.6	7.7	0	-.1
55 Automotive Dealers, Service Stations	7.7	7.7	7.9	0	-.2
58 Eating and Drinking Places	19.9	19.0	19.8	.9	.1
52, 57, 59 Bldg. Mat., Farm Equip., Furn., Misc.	10.8	10.6	10.8	.2	0
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	12.7	12.7	12.8	0	-.1
SERVICES	57.3	56.4	55.3	.9	2.0
70 Hotels and other Lodging Places	6.8	6.7	6.4	.1	.4
72 Personal Services	2.8	2.7	2.8	.1	0
80 Medical and other Health Services	18.8	18.7	18.1	.1	.7
Other Services	28.8	28.3	28.1	.5	.7
GOVERNMENT	71.2	71.2	70.6	0	.6
91 Federal Government	13.2	12.9	12.9	.3	.3
92 State Colleges and Universities	8.2	8.2	8.3	0	-.1
92 Other State Government	10.5	10.8	10.6	-.3	-.1
93 Local Education	25.0	25.0	24.7	0	.3
93 Other Local Government	14.2	14.3	14.0	-.1	.2

1/ Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers. Current month preliminary. Revised to 1980 Benchmarks.

2/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

Establishment Series began January 1964; Residence Series began January 1970.

RESIDENCE DATA
(Establishment Data in italics)

TABLE V

GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

Employment by Industry

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	Apr. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month from: Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS 1/	35.5	34.7	33.5	.8	2.0
EMPLOYED PERSONS	32.9	32.1	31.4	.8	1.5
Persons Employed in Agriculture	1.3	1.0	1.3	.3	0
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	2.6	2.6	2.1	0	.5
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted2/.....	*7.3*	*7.6*	*6.3*	*.3*	*1.0*
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted2/..	*7.0*	*7.0*	*6.6*	*0*	*.4*
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	29.4	29.2	29.2	.2	.2
Manufacturing	1.3	1.3	1.7	0	-.4
Contract Construction	1.7	1.5	1.5	.2	.2
Transportation and Public Utilities ...	1.8	1.8	1.8	0	0
Trade	9.6	9.5	9.3	.1	.3
Wholesale Trade	3.0	3.0	2.7	0	.3
Retail Trade	6.6	6.5	6.6	.1	0
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	2.0	2.0	2.1	0	-.1
Services and Mining	7.0	7.0	7.0	0	0
Government	6.0	6.1	5.8	-.1	.2
Federal Government	1.8	1.8	1.8	0	0
State and Local Government	4.2	4.3	4.0	-.1	.2

1/ *Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers.*

2/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.*

Current month preliminary ***Revised to 1980 Benchmarks***

TABLE VI

BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

Employment by Industry

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	Apr. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month from: Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS[1]	58.2	57.6	55.5	.6	2.7
EMPLOYED PERSONS	55.6	54.6	53.0	1.0	2.6
Persons Employed in Agriculture	1.5	1.2	1.5	.3	0
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	2.6	3.0	2.5	-.4	.1
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted[2]	*4.4*	*5.2*	*4.4*	*-.8*	*0*
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted[2]	*4.5*	*4.4*	*4.5*	*.1*	*0*
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	47.4	47.3	47.0	.1	.4
Manufacturing	4.0	4.2	4.0	-.2	0
Contract Construction	2.5	2.3	2.4	.2	.1
Transportation and Public Utilties	4.8	4.8	4.7	0	.1
Trade	15.6	15.5	15.9	.1	-.3
Wholesale Trade	5.7	5.7	5.5	0	.2
Retail Trade	9.9	9.8	10.4	.1	-.5
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	2.2	2.3	2.3	-.1	-.1
Services and Mining	10.3	10.2	9.8	.1	.5
Government	8.0	8.0	7.8	0	.2
Federal Government	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
State and Local Government	6.5	6.5	6.3	0	.2

[1] *Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers.*

[2] *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.*

Current month preliminary

Revised to 1980 Benchmarks

Table VII

MONTANA LABOR MARKET AREAS[1/]

Civilian Labor Force

in Thousands

	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			3/ UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1981	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1981	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1981	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1981
STATEWIDE	362.4	371.3	382.7	334.9	345.7	359.2	27.5	25.6	23.5	*7.6*	*6.9*	*6.1*
GREAT FALLS SMSA	34.2	34.7	35.5	31.3	32.1	32.9	2.9	2.6	2.6	*8.5*	*7.6*	*7.3*
BILLINGS SMSA	57.1	57.6	58.2	53.8	54.6	55.6	3.3	3.0	2.6	*5.8*	*5.2*	*4.4*
BALANCE OF STATE[2/]	271.0	279.0	289.0	249.7	259.1	270.7	21.3	19.9	18.3	*7.9*	*7.2*	*6.3*
ANACONDA-BUTTE	34.0	34.6	35.3	31.1	31.9	32.7	2.9	2.7	2.6	*8.5*	*7.7*	*7.5*
BOZEMAN	25.3	25.9	26.7	23.5	24.3	25.1	1.8	1.6	1.6	*7.1*	*6.2*	*5.8*
GLASGOW	16.1	17.0	18.1	15.2	16.1	17.4	.9	.9	.7	*5.6*	*5.1*	*3.9*
GLENDIVE	15.0	15.8	16.7	14.6	15.4	16.3	.4	.4	.4	*2.7*	*2.7*	*2.4*
HARDIN-RED LODGE	13.1	13.3	14.0	12.3	12.6	13.4	.8	.7	.6	*6.5*	*5.4*	*4.3*
HAVRE	12.1	12.8	13.4	11.2	12.0	12.7	.9	.8	.7	*7.4*	*5.9*	*5.1*
HELENA	28.0	28.4	29.1	26.4	27.0	27.8	1.6	1.4	1.3	*5.8*	*5.1*	*4.5*
KALISPELL	35.7	37.1	37.7	31.5	32.6	33.6	4.2	4.5	4.1	*11.9*	*12.1*	*10.8*
LEWISTOWN	9.7	10.3	10.9	9.2	9.8	10.6	.5	.5	.3	*5.5*	*4.7*	*3.3*
MILES CITY	16.3	16.7	17.4	15.4	15.9	16.8	.9	.8	.6	*5.5*	*4.7*	*3.8*
MISSOULA	49.0	49.9	50.9	43.9	45.2	46.5	5.1	4.7	4.4	*10.4*	*9.4*	*8.6*
SHELBY-CUT BANK	16.5	17.2	18.8	15.4	16.2	17.9	1.1	1.0	.9	*6.7*	*6.0*	*4.8*

1/ A list of counties included in each Labor Market Area appears on "New Business Firms" page. Map inside back cover.
2/ Statewide, excluding Great Falls and Billings Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas.
3/ Unemployment rate is computed from whole numbers.

TABLE VIII

MONTANA LABOR MARKET AREAS[1/]

Civilian Labor Force

in Thousands

	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			[3/] UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	Apr. 1981	Apr. 1980	Percent Change 1980-1981	Apr. 1981	Apr. 1980	Percent Change 1980-1981	Apr. 1981	Apr. 1980	Net Change 1980-1981	Apr. 1981	Apr. 1980	Net Change 1980-1981
STATEWIDE	382.7	370.7	*3.2*	359.2	347.2	*3.5*	23.5	23.5	*0*	6.1	6.4	*-.3*
GREAT FALLS SMSA	35.5	33.5	*6.0*	32.9	31.4	*4.8*	2.6	2.1	*.5*	7.3	6.3	*1.0*
BILLINGS SMSA	58.2	55.5	*4.9*	55.6	53.0	*4.9*	2.6	2.5	*.1*	4.4	4.4	*0*
BALANCE OF STATE[2/]	289.0	281.7	*2.6*	270.7	262.7	*3.0*	18.3	19.0	*-.7*	6.3	6.7	*-.4*
ANACONDA-BUTTE	35.3	34.2	*3.2*	32.7	32.1	*1.9*	2.6	2.1	*.5*	7.5	6.0	*1.5*
BOZEMAN	26.7	26.5	*.7*	25.1	24.8	*1.2*	1.6	1.7	*-.1*	5.8	6.3	*-.5*
GLASGOW	18.1	17.0	*6.5*	17.4	16.4	*6.1*	.7	.6	*.1*	3.9	3.3	*.6*
GLENDIVE	16.7	15.6	*7.1*	16.3	15.2	*7.2*	.4	.4	*0*	2.4	2.6	*-.2*
HARDIN-RED LODGE	14.0	13.8	*1.4*	13.4	13.2	*1.5*	.6	.6	*0*	4.3	4.7	*-.4*
HAVRE	13.4	13.0	*3.1*	12.7	12.3	*3.2*	.7	.7	*0*	5.1	5.6	*-.5*
HELENA	29.1	28.3	*2.8*	27.8	26.9	*3.3*	1.3	1.4	*-.1*	4.5	5.1	*-.6*
KALISPELL	37.7	38.1	*-1.0*	33.6	33.3	*.9*	4.1	4.8	*-.7*	10.8	12.6	*-1.8*
LEWISTOWN	10.9	11.0	*-.9*	10.6	10.4	*1.9*	.3	.6	*-.3*	3.3	5.1	*-1.8*
MILES CITY	17.4	16.3	*6.8*	16.8	15.6	*7.7*	.6	.7	*-.1*	3.8	4.1	*-.3*
MISSOULA	50.9	50.0	*1.8*	46.5	45.5	*2.2*	4.4	4.5	*-.1*	8.6	9.1	*-.5*
SHELBY-CUT BANK	18.8	18.0	*4.4*	17.9	17.1	*4.7*	.9	.9	*0*	4.8	5.2	*-.4*

1/ A list of counties included in each Labor Market Area appears on "New Business Firms" page. Map inside back cover.
2/ Statewide, excluding Great Falls and Billings Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas.
3/ Unemployment rate is computed from whole numbers.

TABLE IX-A

March 1981

(Revised)

MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE BY COUNTY
CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	PERCENT RATE
STATEWIDE	371311	345741	25570	6.9
CASCADE	34707	32064	2643	7.6
YELLOWSTONE	57582	54612	2970	5.2
BEAVERHEAD	4168	3966	202	4.8
BIG HORN	5840	5441	399	6.8
BLAINE	2914	2691	223	7.7
BROADWATER	1382	1289	93	6.7
CARBON	3459	3298	161	4.7
CARTER	791	776	15	1.9
CHOUTEAU	2834	2774	60	2.1
CUSTER	6216	5886	330	5.3
DANIELS	1375	1339	36	2.6
DAWSON	5983	5787	196	3.3
DEER LODGE	4619	3795	824	17.8
FALLON	2419	2378	41	1.7
FERGUS	5747	5435	312	5.4
FLATHEAD	22641	20173	2468	10.9
GALLATIN	19064	18042	1022	5.4
GARFIELD	818	809	9	1.1
GLACIER	5561	4938	623	11.2
GOLDEN VALLEY	371	362	9	2.4
GRANITE	1153	1057	96	8.3
HILL	8743	8247	496	5.7
JEFFERSON	2341	2197	144	6.2
JUDITH BASIN	1066	1032	34	3.2
LAKE	7578	6965	613	8.1
LEWIS AND CLARK	24676	23472	1204	4.9
LIBERTY	1138	1108	30	2.6
LINCOLN	6854	5445	1409	20.6
MC CONE	1157	1138	19	1.6
MADISON	2237	2113	124	5.5
MEAGHER	1043	979	64	6.1
MINERAL	1811	1593	218	12.0
MISSOULA	36607	33567	3040	8.3
MUSSELSHELL	1676	1604	72	4.3
PARK	5760	5252	508	8.8
PETROLEUM	277	269	8	2.9
PHILLIPS	2906	2775	131	4.5
PONDERA	3514	3388	126	3.6
POWDER RIVER	1156	1125	31	2.7
POWELL	3764	3534	230	6.1
PRAIRIE	839	806	33	3.9
RAVALLI	7523	6580	943	12.5
RICHLAND	6313	6167	146	2.3
ROOSEVELT	5129	4829	300	5.8
ROSEBUD	5683	5323	360	6.3
SANDERS	3912	3427	485	12.4
SHERIDAN	2995	2945	50	1.7
SILVER BOW	18665	17464	1201	6.4
STILLWATER	2226	2115	111	5.0
SWEET GRASS	1829	1773	56	3.1
TETON	2686	2589	97	3.6
TOOLE	2656	2534	122	4.6
TREASURE	431	417	14	3.2
VALLEY	4625	4271	354	7.7
WHEATLAND	1180	1134	46	3.9
WIBAUX	671	652	19	2.8

TABLE IX-B

April 1981

(Preliminary)

MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE BY COUNTY
CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	PERCENT RATE
STATEWIDE	382755	359244	23511	6.1
CASCADE	35475	32868	2607	7.3
YELLOWSTONE	58231	55650	2581	4.4
BEAVERHEAD	4223	4064	159	3.8
BIG HORN	5983	5660	323	5.4
BLAINE	3096	2901	195	6.3
BROADWATER	1330	1266	64	4.8
CARBON	3504	3339	165	4.7
CARTER	879	869	10	1.1
CHOUTEAU	3178	3132	46	1.4
CUSTER	6497	6254	243	3.7
DANIELS	1485	1460	25	1.7
DAWSON	6143	5975	168	2.7
DEER LODGE	4736	3889	847	17.9
FALLON	2467	2432	35	1.4
FERGUS	5926	5707	219	3.7
FLATHEAD	22997	20691	2306	10.0
GALLATIN	19571	18549	1022	5.2
GARFIELD	876	869	7	.8
GLACIER	5921	5318	603	10.2
GOLDEN VALLEY	413	404	9	2.2
GRANITE	1143	1060	83	7.3
HILL	9070	8602	468	5.2
JEFFERSON	2470	2335	135	5.5
JUDITH BASIN	1170	1145	25	2.1
LAKE	7975	7457	518	6.5
LEWIS AND CLARK	25272	24149	1123	4.4
LIBERTY	1260	1233	27	2.1
LINCOLN	6714	5457	1257	18.7
MC CONE	1221	1205	16	1.3
MADISON	2499	2392	107	4.3
MEAGHER	1113	1053	60	5.4
MINERAL	1867	1665	202	10.8
MISSOULA	37290	34318	2972	8.0
MUSSELSHELL	1804	1749	55	3.0
PARK	5970	5496	474	7.9
PETROLEUM	317	307	10	3.2
PHILLIPS	3241	3127	114	3.5
PONDERA	3729	3635	94	2.5
POWDER RIVER	1270	1251	19	1.5
POWELL	3794	3513	281	7.4
PRAIRIE	939	907	32	3.4
RAVALLI	7878	7074	804	10.2
RICHLAND	6787	6618	169	2.5
ROOSEVELT	5274	5027	247	4.7
ROSEBUD	5830	5490	340	5.8
SANDERS	3894	3481	413	10.6
SHERIDAN	3206	3180	26	.8
SILVER BOW	18908	17738	1170	6.2
STILLWATER	2364	2292	72	3.0
SWEET GRASS	2106	2069	37	1.8
TETON	2928	2843	85	2.9
TOOLE	3074	2991	83	2.7
TREASURE	469	462	7	1.5
VALLEY	4938	4641	297	6.0
WHEATLAND	1288	1250	38	3.0
WIBAUX	752	735	17	2.3

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

TABLE X

MONTANA

FEMALE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

(In Thousands)

INDUSTRY	FEMALE EMPLOYMENT					TOTAL EMPLOYMENT COMPARISON			
	Apr. 1981 1/	March 1981	Apr. 1980	Net Change to Current Month From: Mar. 1981	Net Change to Current Month From: Apr. 1980	Total Apr. 1981	Percent Women	Total Mar. 1981	Percent Women
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Workers .	132.5	132.7	129.4	-.2	3.1	279.3	47.4%	276.8	47.9%
Manufacturing	2.8	2.8	2.6	0	.2	21.7	12.9%	22.5	12.4%
Mining	.5	.5	.5	0	0	7.7	6.5%	7.8	6.4%
Contract Construction	1.5	1.5	1.4	0	.1	13.9	10.8%	12.5	12.0%
Transportation & Public Utilities .	4.3	4.3	4.3	0	0	23.1	18.6%	23.2	18.5%
Wholesale & Retail Trade	35.4	35.4	35.7	0	-.3	71.8	49.3%	70.6	50.1%
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate ..	8.3	8.3	8.4	0	-.1	12.7	65.4%	12.7	65.4%
Services	35.2	35.3	34.5	-.1	.7	57.3	61.4%	56.4	62.6%
Government 2/	44.5	44.6	41.9	-.1	2.6	71.2	62.5%	71.2	62.6%

1/ Current month preliminary. Revised to 1980 Benchmark. Establishment Series began January 1974.

2/ Includes all civilian employees of Federal, State, and Local Governments regardless of the activity in which the employee is engaged.

Prepared by the Montana Employment Security Division

TABLE XI

MONTANA FEMALE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

1980

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ann. Avg.
Non-agricultural Wage & Salary.	133.0	132.9	130.9	129.4	129.5	134.0	128.7	129.8	130.5	132.6	133.2	133.1	131.5
Manufacturing.....	3.4	3.3	3.3	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.7	2.7	2.7	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.9
Mining.....	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5
Contract Construction.....	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
Transport. & Public Utilities..	4.2	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4
Wholesale & Retail Trade.....	36.5	36.5	35.6	35.7	36.0	35.9	36.2	36.1	35.9	35.9	36.1	36.7	36.1
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate...	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.4	8.3	8.4	8.4
Services.....	36.2	36.2	34.3	34.5	34.1	37.2	37.2	34.2	34.1	34.5	34.7	34.7	35.2
Government.....	42.5	42.5	43.1	41.9	42.1	43.3	37.6	41.7	42.9	43.8	44.6	43.9	42.5

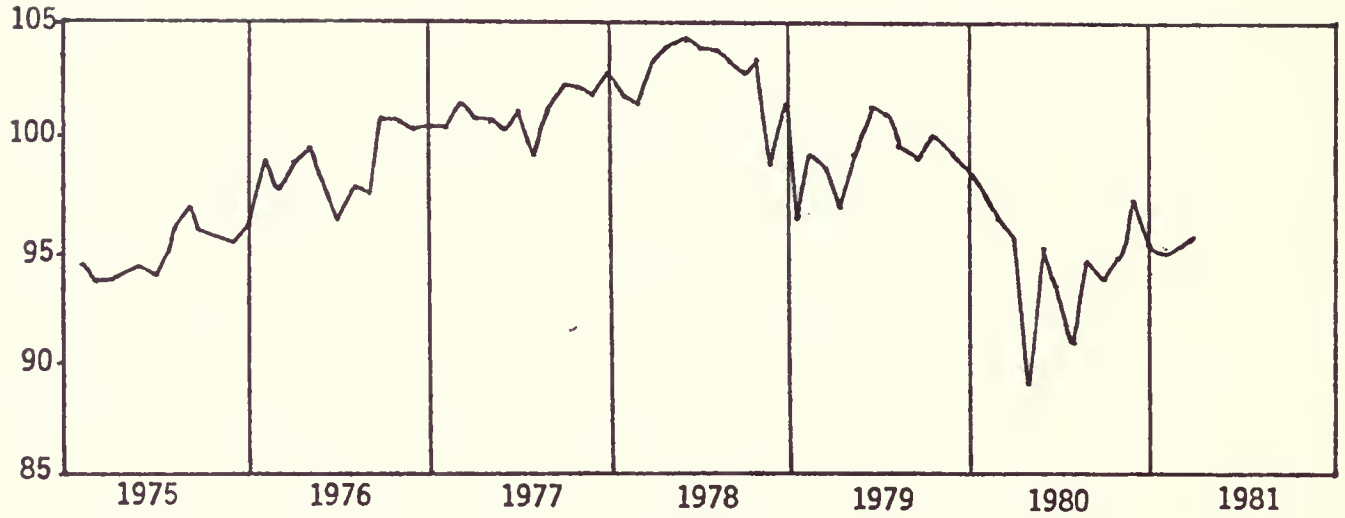
1981

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.
Non-agricultural Wage & Salary.	131.7	132.7	132.7	132.5
Manufacturing.....	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.8
Mining.....	.5	.5	.5	.5
Contract Construction.....	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
Transport. & Public Utilities..	4.4	4.3	4.3	4.3
Wholesale & Retail Trade.....	35.5	35.4	35.4	35.4
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate...	8.4	8.3	8.3	8.3
Services.....	34.5	35.5	35.3	35.2
Government.....	44.0	44.6	44.6	44.5

1/ Includes all civilian employees of Federal, State, and Local Governments regardless of the activity in which the employee is engaged. Establishment Series began January, 1974. Revised to 1980 Benchmark.

ECONOMIC INDICATORS

COMPOSITE INDEX OF SIX ECONOMIC INDICATORS



1972 = 100

Monthly Figures of Composite Index

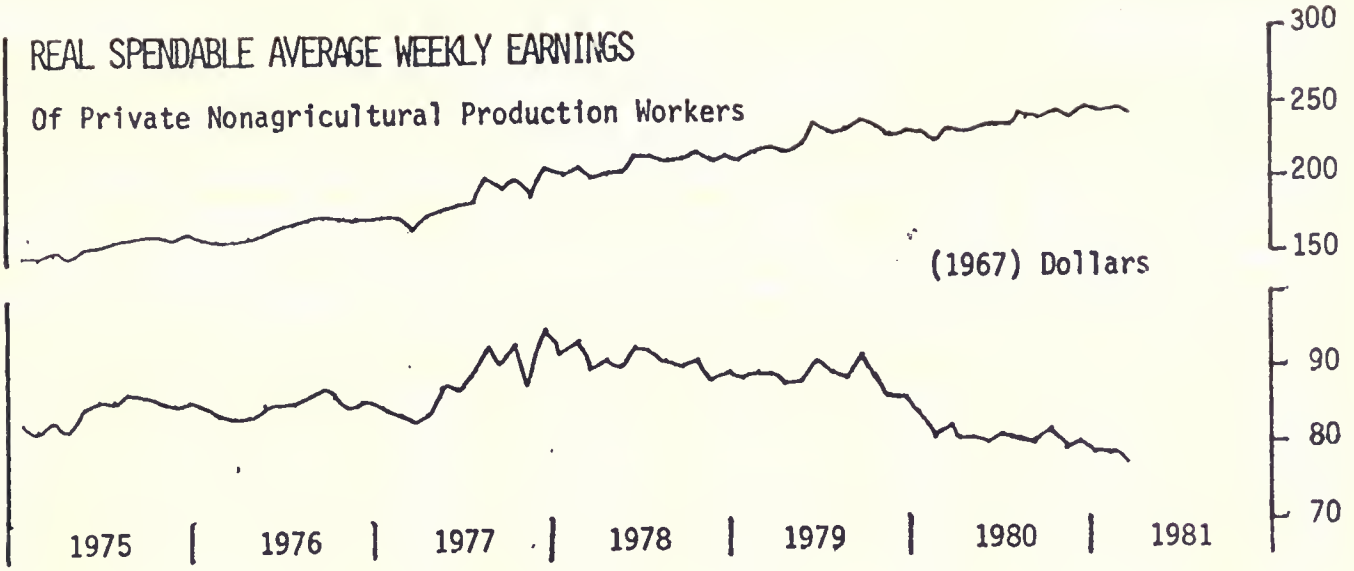
	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
January	94.8	99.1	100.4	101.9	96.8	97.2	95.1
February	94.1	97.9	101.6	101.7	99.3	96.2	95.4
March	94.2	98.6	100.8	103.5	98.9	95.4	95.9
April	94.4	99.5	100.8	104.2	97.2	88.6	
May	94.6	98.4	100.4	104.3	99.4	94.3	
June	96.5	96.8	101.1	104.0	101.3	92.6	
July	96.3	98.0	99.4	103.8	101.0	90.4	
August	97.7	97.9	101.2	103.2	99.8	93.9	
September	96.3	100.8	102.3	102.8	99.6	93.3	
October	96.1	100.7	102.2	103.6	100.5	95.0	
November	95.8	100.5	101.9	99.0	99.8	97.4	
December	96.5	100.5	102.9	101.5	98.7	95.5	

MONTANA'S COMPOSITE INDEX

A slight increase was noted in the Composite Index during March. One big factor was the manufacturing layoff rate which dropped from 1.5 in February to 0.1 in March. Other positive movement was seen in manufacturing employment and the total number of building permits. Three components also measured negative movement. They were the manufacturing accession rate, average weekly initial claims and average weekly hours in manufacturing. The March composite index of 95.9 is an improvement over February, 1981 and March, 1980 both of which recorded a Composite Index of 95.4.

Components of Composite Index:

Employment, Average Weekly Hours, Total Accessions, and Layoffs in Manufacturing; Building Permits; and Average Weekly Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims.



	Mar. 1981	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980
Gross Average Weekly Earnings	244.84	247.52	234.24
3/ Taxes Withheld	40.68	41.46	36.46
Spendable Earnings	204.17	206.06	197.77
Adjustment for Price Changes since 1967	127.18	127.86	115.33
Real Spendable Earnings	76.99	78.20	82.44

	1) Average Weekly Earnings			2) Real Spendable Earnings		
	1981	1980	1979	1981	1980	1979
January	245.28	232.60	215.42	78.44	84.36	89.20
Febuary	247.52	224.93	219.57	78.20	80.79	89.60
March	244.84	234.24	221.43	76.99	82.44	89.29
April		232.23	220.68		80.94	88.10
May		234.15	225.42		80.67	88.52
June		234.97	236.99		80.02	91.26
July		238.82	233.87		81.08	89.41
August		239.47	234.99		80.75	88.73
September		241.60	238.74		80.63	91.96
October		246.66	236.90		81.37	89.02
November		241.89	230.62		79.29	86.22
December		247.75	233.24		80.21	86.12

Real Spendable Earnings

Real spendable earnings dropped to $76.99 in March. This is the lowest number recorded since this series was originated in 1974. Gross average weekly earnings dropped from $247.52 in February to $244.84 in March. At the same time, the consumer price index rose from 263.5 to 265.2. In March of 1980, average weekly real spendable earnings were calculated at $82.44.

1/ Average Weekly earnings of total private nonagricultrual production workers.
2/ Real spendable average weekly earnings of private nonagricultural production workers.
3/ Taxes computed on family with four exemptions.

MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute[2]
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent[1] Montana	Percent[1] U. S.	
1979								
January	369.7	347.0	314.4	32.6	22.7	6.1	5.8	*
February	369.0	348.3	315.7	32.6	20.9	5.6	5.7	1.1
March	367.1	347.4	314.9	32.5	19.7	5.4	5.7	*
April	368.7	348.7	316.3	32.4	20.0	5.4	5.8	*
May	370.5	351.1	318.8	32.3	19.4	5.2	5.8	.1
June	372.7	354.0	321.8	32.2	18.7	5.0	5.7	.1
July	368.0	349.9	317.8	32.1	18.1	4.9	5.7	*
August	368.1	350.6	318.6	32.0	17.5	4.8	5.9	.1
September	370.2	352.6	320.6	32.0	17.6	4.8	5.8	*
October	371.9	354.2	322.2	32.0	17.7	4.8	5.9	*
November	371.9	354.4	322.4	32.0	17.5	4.7	5.8	*
December	372.4	353.8	321.8	32.0	18.6	5.0	5.9	*
Avg.	370.0	351.0	318.8	32.2	19.0	5.1	5.8	.1
1980								
January	375.7	355.8	323.8	32.0	19.9	5.3	6.2	.7
February	376.1	356.3	324.4	31.9	19.8	5.3	6.2	1.1
March	376.5	355.9	324.2	31.7	20.6	5.8	6.3	.7
April	375.2	352.2	320.7	31.5	23.0	6.1	6.9	.3
May	374.4	352.5	321.1	31.4	21.9	5.9	7.6	.2
June	376.0	353.9	322.7	31.2	22.1	5.9	7.5	.2
July	370.0	345.4	314.3	31.1	24.6	6.7	7.6	2.7
August	370.9	348.0	317.0	31.0	22.9	6.2	7.6	2.6
September	370.7	348.2	317.0	31.2	22.5	6.1	7.4	3.1
October	372.9	350.6	319.3	31.3	22.3	6.0	7.6	1.3
November	375.2	353.1	321.8	31.3	22.1	5.9	7.5	1.3
December	374.6	352.2	320.8	31.4	22.4	6.0	7.4	*
Avg.	374.0	352.0	320.6	31.4	22.0	6.0	7.1	1.2
1981								
January	375.5	354.1	322.7	31.4	21.4	5.7	7.4	*
February	382.0	358.5	327.2	31.3	23.5	6.2	7.3	1.0
March	384.8	362.1	331.1	31.0	22.7	5.9	7.3	*
April	387.2	364.2	333.5	30.7	23.0	5.9	7.3	*
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.*

2/ *Non-additive - included in total employment.*

* *Under 50.*

Series began January 1970.

Revised to 1980 Benchmarks.

Current month preliminary

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

RESIDENCE DATA

Table XIII

GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

Civilian Labor Force
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
(in Thousands)

CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ County	Percent 1/ State	
1979								
January	34.4	31.8	30.5	1.3	2.6	*7.6*	*6.1*	*
February	34.5	32.0	30.7	1.3	2.5	*7.3*	*5.6*	*
March	34.1	31.8	30.5	1.3	2.3	*6.8*	*5.4*	*
April	34.3	32.0	30.7	1.3	2.3	*6.8*	*5.4*	*
May	34.2	32.0	30.7	1.3	2.2	*6.6*	*5.2*	*
June	33.8	31.8	30.5	1.3	2.0	*5.8*	*5.0*	*
July	34.0	31.9	30.6	1.3	2.1	*6.1*	*4.9*	*
August	33.9	31.8	30.5	1.3	2.1	*6.1*	*4.8*	*
September	33.7	31.8	30.5	1.3	1.9	*5.7*	*4.8*	*
October	33.3	31.7	30.4	1.3	1.6	*4.7*	*4.8*	*
November	33.5	31.6	30.3	1.3	1.9	*5.6*	*4.7*	*
December	33.5	31.6	30.3	1.3	1.9	*5.6*	*5.0*	*
Avg.	33.9	31.8	30.5	1.3	2.1	*6.2*	*5.1*	*
1980								
January	34.1	32.1	30.8	1.3	2.0	*5.9*	*5.3*	*
February	34.5	32.4	31.1	1.3	2.1	*6.0*	*5.3*	*
March	34.4	32.3	31.0	1.3	2.1	*6.0*	*5.5*	*
April	33.9	31.7	30.3	1.2	2.2	*6.6*	*6.1*	*
May	34.2	31.9	30.5	1.2	2.3	*6.7*	*5.9*	.2
June	33.5	31.0	29.6	1.2	2.5	*7.5*	*5.9*	.2
July	34.4	31.7	30.3	1.2	2.7	*7.9*	*6.7*	.5
August	34.3	31.7	30.3	1.2	2.6	*7.4*	*6.2*	.4
September	34.0	31.6	30.2	1.2	2.4	*6.9*	*6.1*	.4
October	34.2	31.6	30.2	1.2	2.6	*7.5*	*6.0*	*
November	34.4	31.9	30.5	1.2	2.5	*7.2*	*5.9*	*
December	34.5	32.0	30.6	1.2	2.5	*7.2*	*6.0*	*
Avg.	34.2	31.8	30.6	1.2	2.4	*6.9*	*6.0*	.2
1981								
January	34.5	32.3	31.1	1.2	2.2	*6.3*	*5.7*	*
February	35.6	32.9	31.7	1.2	2.7	*7.4*	*6.2*	*
March	35.4	32.9	31.7	1.2	2.5	*7.0*	*5.9*	*
April	*35.7*	*33.2*	*32.0*	*1.2*	*2.5*	*7.0*	*5.9*	*
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.
2/ Non-additive - included in total employment.
* *Under 50.*

Series began January 1970.
Revised to 1980 Benchmarks.
Current month preliminary.

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

Table XIV

BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

Civilian Labor Force

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ County	Percent 1/ State	
1979								
January	54.7	52.2	50.7	1.5	2.5	4.5	6.1	*
February	54.7	52.5	51.0	1.5	2.2	4.1	5.6	*
March	54.4	52.3	50.8	1.5	2.1	3.8	5.4	*
April	55.0	52.9	51.4	1.5	2.1	3.9	5.4	*
May	55.2	53.1	51.6	1.5	2.1	3.8	5.2	*
June	55.3	53.4	51.9	1.5	1.9	3.5	5.0	*
July	55.0	53.1	51.6	1.5	1.9	3.4	4.9	*
August	55.6	53.7	52.2	1.5	1.9	3.4	4.8	*
September	55.4	53.5	52.0	1.5	1.9	3.3	4.8	*
October	55.3	53.4	51.9	1.5	1.9	3.4	4.8	*
November	55.7	53.7	52.2	1.5	2.0	3.6	4.7	*
December	55.1	53.1	51.6	1.5	2.0	3.6	5.0	*
Avg.	55.1	53.1	51.6	1.5	2.0	3.7	5.1	*
1980								
January	56.3	54.1	52.6	1.5	2.2	3.9	5.3	.6
February	56.8	54.3	52.8	1.5	2.5	4.4	5.3	.7
March	56.7	54.2	52.7	1.5	2.5	4.5	5.5	.3
April	56.3	53.8	52.4	1.4	2.5	4.5	6.1	*
May	56.5	54.0	52.6	1.4	2.5	4.5	5.9	*
June	56.7	54.0	52.6	1.4	2.7	4.7	5.9	*
July	56.9	53.9	52.5	1.4	3.0	5.3	6.7	*
August	56.7	53.9	52.5	1.4	2.8	4.9	6.2	*
September	56.8	54.1	52.7	1.4	2.7	4.8	6.1	*
October	56.9	54.3	52.9	1.4	2.6	4.5	6.0	*
November	57.1	54.6	53.2	1.4	2.5	4.3	5.9	*
December	57.1	54.6	53.2	1.4	2.5	4.4	6.0	*
Avg.	56.7	54.1	52.7	1.4	2.6	4.6	6.0	.1
1981								
January	57.2	54.8	53.4	1.4	2.4	4.2	5.7	*
February	58.8	55.9	54.5	1.4	2.9	4.8	6.2	*
March	58.9	56.3	54.9	1.4	2.6	4.4	5.9	*
April	59.1	56.4	55.0	1.4	2.7	4.5	5.9	*
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers*

2/ *Non-additive - included in total employment.*

* *Under 50.*

Series began January 1970.

Revised to 1980 Benchmarks.

Current month preliminary.

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

MONTANA HOURS AND EARNINGS

For Private Nonagricultural Industries

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	April 1981	Mar. 1981	April 1980	April 1981	Mar. 1981	April 1980	April 1981	Mar. 1981	April 1980
TOTAL PRIVATE	247.65	244.84	232.23	36.1	35.9	36.4	6.86	6.82	6.38
MANUFACTURING	367.11	367.84	371.70	40.7	41.1	41.3	9.02	8.95	9.00
Durable Goods	361.78	365.62	375.46	39.8	40.4	40.9	9.09	9.05	9.30
Primary Metal Industries	373.50	391.09	427.99	30.0	31.9	40.8	12.45	12.26	10.49
Nondurable Goods	376.94	370.52	358.26	42.4	42.2	42.0	8.89	8.78	8.53
Food and Kindred Products	326.47	319.85	298.15	44.6	44.3	44.5	7.32	7.22	6.70
MINING	467.14	468.99	416.09	41.8	42.1	49.3	11.19	11.14	8.44
Metal Mining	467.24	467.24	398.31	40.7	40.7	35.5	11.48	11.48	11.22
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	395.00	401.00	377.85	39.5	39.9	37.3	10.00	10.05	10.13
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	363.44	363.88	334.65	44.0	44.0	42.2	8.26	8.27	7.93
Communications, Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services	386.54	388.05	361.37	50.2	50.2	48.9	7.70	7.73	7.39
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	202.25	192.51	190.63	31.9	31.0	33.8	6.34	6.21	5.64
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	158.84	165.24	158.73	37.2	37.3	33.7	4.27	4.43	4.71
SERVICES	159.03	158.81	148.68	34.2	34.3	34.1	4.65	4.63	4.36

Data for current month are preliminary.
Averages are based on gross earnings, including overtime and premium pay.
Selected Industries series began January 1950; Total Private Sector series began January 1969 (May 1972 issue).

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

MONTANA LABOR TURNOVER RATES

In Manufacturing and Mining Industries

(per 100 employees)

	ACCESSION RATES									SEPARATION RATES								
	Total			New Hires			Recalls			Total			Quits			Layoffs		
	Mar. 1981	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980	Mar. 1981	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980	Mar. 1981	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980	Mar. 1981	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980	Mar. 1981	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980	Mar. 1981	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980
MANUFACTURING	1.3	1.1	1.6	0.8	0.5	1.0	0.4	0.6	0.5	2.3	4.0	2.8	0.7	0.9	0.7	1.4	1.5	1.5
Durable Goods	1.2	0.9	1.5	0.5	0.1	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.7	3.1	2.9	3.2	0.5	0.3	0.5	2.4	2.3	2.2
Primary Metal Industries	0.3	0.3	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.8	0.6	0.3	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.7
Nondurable Goods	1.5	1.5	1.7	1.4	1.3	1.7	0.1	0.2	0.0	1.1	5.6	2.0	0.9	1.7	1.1	0.0	0.2	0.1
MINING	3.9	3.1	15.5	3.6	2.7	11.7	0.0	0.4	2.5	6.1	11.4	8.1	4.6	3.7	2.2	1.2	4.7	4.8
Metal Mining	1.4	0.0	5.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.6	7.0	0.0	2.4	0.4	0.0	0.0	5.0	0.0	0.0

* *Less than .05.*

NEW BUSINESS FIRMS IN MONTANA

BY INDUSTRY

New business firms in Montana are a reflection of economic activity within the business community. Data furnished on this page and the following page are an aggrigate of information supplied by the office of the Montana Secretary of State and the Montana Employment Security Division. These data should in no way be construed as being absolute. They are presented to indicate business trends during the survey period.

The chart on the following page is a break-down by county and labor market area of business starts in Montana during the current month and year to date, with a comparison to the previous year. Foreign corporation classification has been added and are considered established corporations from other states registered to do business in Montana. County tabulation is not possible, only industry structure is known.

The following chart is a break-down of new businesses by industry, with a comparison to last year.

Industry	April 1981	April 1980	Year to Date Apr. 1981	Year to Date Apr. 1980
AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, AND FISHERIES	33	28	132	129
MINING	63	31	243	106
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	55	37	197	188
MANUFACTURING	22	9	96	83
TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATION, ELECTRIC GAS, AND SANITARY SERVICES	31	19	110	88
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	158	104	574	457
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	61	37	284	174
SERVICES	142	125	678	581
NON-PROFIT SERVICES	(26)	(34)	(155)	(139)
GOVERNMENT	0	0	0	0
NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED	37	3	59	62
STATE TOTAL	602	393	2373	1868

NEW BUSINESS FIRMS IN MONTANA

BY LABOR MARKET AREA

Areas	NEW BUSINESS FIRMS Apr. 1981	Apr. 1980	Year to Date 1981	1980
STATE OF MONTANA	602	393	2373	1868
GREAT FALLS SMSA	38	21	160	134
BILLINGS SMSA	83	55	311	270
FOREIGN CORPORATIONS MULTI-COUNTY	109	77	468	187
ANACONDA-BUTTE LMA	46	13	144	113
Beaverhead	4	1	30	20
Deer Lodge	8	0	19	7
Granite	2	0	2	6
Madison	1	4	14	15
Powell	4	2	6	15
Silver Bow	27	6	73	50
BOZEMAN LMA	46	30	149	129
Gallatin	37	22	120	92
Meagher	2	2	3	7
Park	7	6	26	30
GLASGOW LMA	16	14	69	60
Daniels	1	2	3	4
Phillips	1	3	11	12
Roosevelt	6	5	21	19
Sheridan	5	1	20	11
Valley	3	3	14	14
GLENDIVE LMA	32	12	125	103
Dawson	8	3	42	30
Garfield	1	0	2	3
McCone	3	0	12	12
Prairie	0	1	2	6
Richland	20	8	64	51
Wibaux	0	0	3	1
HARDIN-RED LODGE LMA	11	10	43	44
Big Horn	2	2	6	12
Carbon	4	5	13	13
Stillwater	5	2	18	14
Sweet Grass	0	1	6	5

Areas	NEW BUSINESS FIRMS Apr. 1981	Apr. 1980	Year to Date 1981	1980
HAVRE LMA	17	13	76	49
Blaine	4	4	10	11
Hill	13	7	61	30
Liberty	0	2	5	8
HELENA LMA	46	25	153	11[illegible]
Broadwater	2	1	4	2
Jefferson	6	2	14	8
Lewis and Clark	38	22	135	108
KALISPELL LMA	54	44	228	227
Flathead	36	30	159	151
Lake	10	4	40	37
Lincoln	8	10	29	39
LEWISTOWN LMA	18	9	46	42
Fergus	12	6	24	24
Golden Valley	0	0	0	[illegible]
Judith Basin	0	0	3	[illegible]
Musselshell	5	2	11	11
Petroleum	0	0	2	1
Wheatland	1	1	6	1
MILES CITY LMA	16	13	70	62
Carter	0	1	2	4
Custer	7	3	30	15
Fallon	3	6	10	20
Powder River	1	3	10	6
Rosebud	5	0	17	16
Treasure	0	0	1	1
MISSOULA LMA	51	41	244	240
Mineral	2	0	6	5
Missoula	31	24	155	174
Ravalli	13	14	63	45
Sanders	5	3	20	16
SHELBY-CUT BANK LMA	19	16	87	90
Choteau	1	0	9	14
Glacier	7	4	26	28
Pondera	1	5	10	19
Teton	4	4	11	8
Toole	6	3	31	21

Sources of data: State of Montana Employment Security Division, Research and Analysis Section; Montana Secretary of State.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE: CLAIM TO PAYMENT

Many of those persons who become separated from their jobs, enter our local Job Service offices for two reasons: to seek employment and to claim unemployment insurance (UI) benefits. Claimant wage credits obtained from insured employers are examined to determine if the claim meets monetary eligibility requirements for UI benefits and, if so, for how much per week is the claimant qualified. Monetarily eligible claims are subsequently segregated according to criteria for establishing which party (claimant or employer) was most responsible for the job separation in question. Claims for job separations resulting from claimant actions (issues) are further subjected to the test of whether or not an individuals's reduction in his potential benefit duration is warranted. If otherwise eligible and if availability criteria continue to be complied with throughout his actual unemployment duration, weekly benefit payments will commence with the claimant's second week of unemployment (a waiting week must be served under Montana law). The number and amount of such payments by county are shown in the table on the following page. Interstate payments in the table refer to payments made to individuals who now reside in other states but who had established wage credits in Montana based employment. Amounts shown in the table are financed through employer taxes paid to the Montana UI Trust Fund Account.

STAS-1598 DISTRIBUTION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
APRIL 1981

COUNTY	COUNT	AMOUNT
BEAVERHEAD	252	24,030.32
BIGHORN	346	35,691.30
BLAINE	256	19,938.64
BROADWATER	114	12,076.70
CARBON	296	31,646.43
CARTER	7	687.00
CASCADE	5,150	534,814.13
CHOUTEAU	45	4,088.00
CUSTER	444	44,834.26
DANIELS	39	4,222.00
DAWSON	135	13,286.00
DEER LODGE	1,806	214,535.82
FALLON	60	5,738.00
FERGUS	363	32,108.64
FLATHEAD	5,371	547,856.70
GALLATIN	1,807	160,089.50
GARFIELD	0	0.00
GLACIER	1,020	85,542.94
GOLDEN VALLEY	15	1,053.36
GRANITE	106	10,260.75
HILL	619	54,682.73
JEFFERSON	202	21,852.60
JUDITH BASIN	22	2,318.95
LAKE	791	74,424.81
LEWIS AND CLARK	1,806	171,560.69
LIBERTY	51	4,338.50
LINCOLN	2,578	282,650.56
MCCONE	10	800.00
MADISON	163	14,882.00
MEAGHER	94	8,687.16
MINERAL	339	38,120.11
MISSOULA	6,043	612,675.36
MUSSELSHELL	100	9,319.00
PARK	661	56,432.16
PETROLEUM	13	954.00
PHILLIPS	141	13,077.00
PONDERA	127	11,622.10
POWDER RIVER	19	2,087.00
POWELL	431	45,016.52
PRAIRIE	46	4,858.55
RAVALLI	1,587	165,283.57
RICHLAND	137	12,090.48
ROOSEVELT	279	26,367.56
ROSEBUD	527	55,608.85
SANDERS	903	90,775.55
SHERIDAN	33	3,469.00
SILVER BOW	2,235	225,870.06
STILLWATER	156	16,047.41
SWEET GRASS	60	6,566.00
TETON	90	9,362.00
TOOLE	122	11,719.49
TREASURE	15	1,492.00
VALLEY	517	54,481.53
WHEATLAND	42	3,479.00
WIBAUX	16	1,617.00
YELLOWSTONE	4,530	453,831.02
INTRASTATE	43,137	4,348,859.21
INTERSTATE	1,738	250,675.35
TOTAL	44,875	4,599,534.56

CUMULATIVE DISTRIBUTION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
JANUARY 1981 THRU APRIL 1981

COUNTY	COUNT	AMOUNT
BEAVERHEAD	1,310	127,434.76
BIGHORN	1,847	189,566.74
BLAINE	1,157	101,023.86
BROADWATER	605	66,990.05
CARBON	1,369	144,350.76
CARTER	36	4,004.00
CASCADE	22,076	2,344,247.83
CHOUTEAU	243	23,350.00
CUSTER	2,169	218,789.44
DANIELS	151	16,307.00
DAWSON	702	70,685.00
DEER LODGE	9,017	1,064,431.42
FALLON	182	16,183.76
FERGUS	1,951	182,790.78
FLATHEAD	19,179	1,860,580.14
GALLATIN	9,102	841,094.57
GARFIELD	19	1,588.00
GLACIER	3,802	325,573.28
GOLDEN VALLEY	78	6,741.64
GRANITE	468	48,096.95
HILL	2,751	255,970.07
JEFFERSON	1,034	110,920.91
JUDITH BASIN	131	14,279.08
LAKE	4,242	388,658.38
LEWIS AND CLARK	9,078	882,123.56
LIBERTY	215	20,162.40
LINCOLN	8,431	849,248.87
MCCONE	58	4,647.00
MADISON	756	72,445.56
MEAGHER	477	45,372.06
MINERAL	1,503	155,847.98
MISSOULA	25,360	2,533,668.09
MUSSELSHELL	422	41,488.00
PARK	3,139	272,106.37
PETROLEUM	44	2,771.00
PHILLIPS	761	73,236.38
PONDERA	782	78,358.31
POWDER RIVER	96	10,585.00
POWELL	1,497	148,590.86
PRAIRIE	228	23,868.40
RAVALLI	6,078	592,325.44
RICHLAND	509	46,574.10
ROOSEVELT	1,221	112,125.56
ROSEBUD	2,420	264,973.14
SANDERS	3,544	346,832.15
SHERIDAN	153	14,607.00
SILVER BOW	9,979	1,023,011.61
STILLWATER	867	93,746.47
SWEET GRASS	388	41,325.00
TETON	595	60,867.00
TOOLE	633	65,198.07
TREASURE	74	7,598.00
VALLEY	1,981	204,919.73
WHEATLAND	146	13,464.00
WIBAUX	91	8,861.00
YELLOWSTONE	22,026	2,279,895.37
INTRASTATE	187,173	18,819424.74
INTERSTATE	7,655	1,224,642.53
TOTAL	194,828	20,044,067.27

SELECTED UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTIVITIES IN MONTANA

YEAR-TO-DATE

	1981	1980	Net Change	Percent Change
Initial Claims[1]	18,096	24,609	-6,513	-26.5
Continued Claims[1]	215,701	239,059	-23,358	-9.8
Number of Benefit Payments[1]	194,828	201,129	-6,301	-3.1
Amount of Benefits Paid[1]	$20,044,067	$18,620,765	$1,423,302	7.6
Average Weekly Benefit Amount[1/2]	$110.50	$97.03	$13.47	13.9

MONTHLY

	April 1981	March 1981	April 1980	Change From Year Ago Net	Percent
Initial Claims[1]	3,653	3,756	7,203	-3,550	-49.3
Continued Claims[1]	45,804	59,290	59,926	-14,122	-23.6
Number of Benefit Payments[1]	44,875	52,618	50,888	-6,013	-11.8
Amount of Benefits Paid[1]	$4,599,535	$5,577,253	$4,773,148	-$173,613	-3.6
Avg. Weekly Benefit Amt[1/2]	$109.85	$114.26	$99.13	$10.72	10.8
Trust Fund Balance	$14,934,511	$11,080,371	$11,069,913*	$3,864,598	34.9

1/ *Regular Unemployment Insurance Program only.*
2/ *Derived according to definition in "Handbook of Unemployment Insurance Financial Data".*
* *Excludes Loans from Federal Government, which amount to $7,084,089.*

The initial claims count for April reflects the normal seasonal decrease from the previous month. However, the drastic change from April of a year ago adequately describes the economic climate of that period. Continued claims also mirror the economic improvement from a year ago.

The number of benefit payments decreased 14.7% from March to April and 11.8% from April of a year ago. The amount of benefit payments also dropped significantly--17.5% from March to April but only 3.6% from April of a year ago.

The average weekly benefit amount dropped 3.9% from March to April, but that was caused by the unusual increase from February to March. The April 1981 figure is still 10.8% ahead of April 1980.

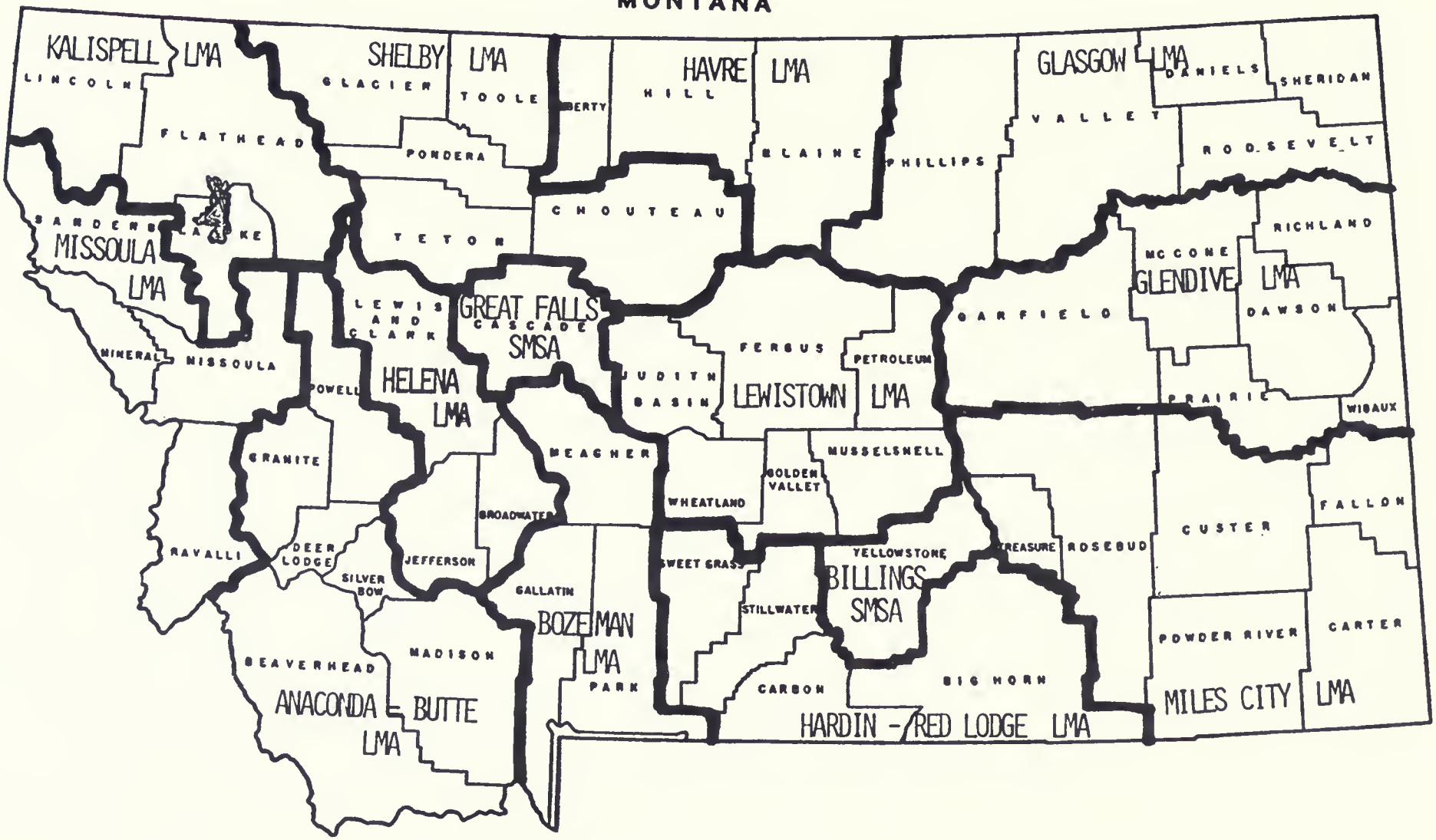
The Trust Fund is beginning to get healthy again as shown by the 34.9% increase from April of a year ago. This trend should continue over the next six months.

Overall, the year-to-date figures reflect an improvement over a year ago with initial claims, continued claims and number of benefit payments down somewhat. The amount of benefits paid and the average weekly benefit amount reflect increases, but that is due in large part to inflationary trends.

LABOR MARKET AREAS

IN

MONTANA



EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
OF MONTANA
P.O. BOX 1728
HELENA, MONTANA 59624

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
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POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
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BULK RATE

The Montana State Employment Security Division maintains 24 local Job Service offices in the principal cities of Montana. You are invited to call on any of these offices for assistance in filling positions in your organization, additional labor market information, and for other services in connection with your employment problems.

750 copies of this publication were produced at a unit cost of $.58 per copy, for a total cost of $612.28 which includes $349.78 for printing and $262.50 for distribution.

S.MAIL

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